



Arizona Primary Care Program

Purpose

The Arizona Primary Care Program, originally titled the Tobacco Tax Primary Care Program, is instrumental in Arizona's efforts to address the health care needs for vulnerable population groups, the uninsured and underserved residents of the State, with the overarching vision to reduce health disparities and improve health outcomes by assuring that eligible, uninsured, Arizonans have access to comprehensive, community-based, culturally responsive primary care services.

The Primary Care Program clinics serve as "Safety Net Providers" throughout the State, therefore, their important role in reducing health disparities

Need

- 18.2% of Arizona's population of all ages is uninsured (Census 2000)
- 15.8% of Arizona's children under age 18 are uninsured
- Unequal access to health lead to avoidable inequities in health outcomes or *Health Disparities*
- The primary care model has proven to be cost-effective in tackling health disparities
- 82,819 primary care medical and dental visits during FY 05

Comprehensive Services

- Outreach
- Primary care and preventive health services
- Prenatal care and family planning services
- Preventive dental services
- Early Periodic Screening and Diagnostic Testing (EPSDT)
- Diagnostic laboratory and imaging services
- Pharmacy
- Health education and health promotion activities
- Medically necessary, non-emergency ground transportation
- Patient referral, tracking and follow-up
- Emergency stabilization services
- Foster cultural and linguistic competence within healthcare systems

Highlights:

- Twenty awards made for FY 05-06 offer comprehensive community based primary care services.
- 11 Contractors provide services in rural Arizona
- 152 clinics in 13 Counties of the State.
- 55 sites are School-Based, 4 are Hospital-Linked.
- Eleven of the twenty contractors that started with Part A funding are now providing ALL expected primary care services.

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